



The Economics of Clean Energy in Wisconsin

Jobs, Savings, Investment, Competitiveness, and the Costs of Inaction

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Jobs

- There were 15,089 clean-energy jobs and 1,294 clean-energy businesses in Wisconsin as of 2007. This only counts direct jobs and not the many indirect jobs in industries that support the clean energy economy.
- Wisconsin will see \$2.8 billion in new public and private investment due to programs and incentives under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and American Clean Energy and Security Act. These investments will lead to 35,238 net new clean-energy jobs in Wisconsin—even assuming some potential job losses in the fossil fuel sector as workers transition into the clean energy economy.
- Wisconsin needs these good-paying, private sector jobs—the state’s unemployment rate was at 8.8 percent as of August 2009.
- Green jobs in Wisconsin were distributed among the following sectors in 2008:
 - Conservation and pollution mitigation: 66.6 percent
 - Environmentally friendly production: 3.7 percent
 - Training and support: 3.3 percent
 - Energy efficiency: 18.6 percent
 - Clean energy: 7.8 percent

Consumer energy bill savings

- The average American family's annual spending on oil, gas, and electricity increased by \$1,100 under the Bush administration's energy policies. But American electricity and fuel bills would go down under the consumer protection provisions in the ACES bill.
- Emissions allowances allocated in the ACES bill for state efficiency programs alone will save Wisconsinites \$1.3 billion between 2012 and 2020.
- The average household in Wisconsin will see a monthly savings of \$6.20 on their electricity bill by 2020 due to ACES' consumer protection and energy-efficiency provisions.
- Households in Wisconsin will also save \$10.58 on gasoline each month by 2020 due to lower oil prices and more fuel-efficient vehicles under ACES.

Investment and innovation

- The clean energy economy is already growing in Wisconsin. Private companies in Wisconsin invested \$46.7 million in clean energy from 2006 – 2008 through venture capital funds.
- An additional \$2.8 billion of public and private investment would flow into clean energy and energy efficiency in Wisconsin under the clean-energy investment provisions in the ACES bill and the ARRA stimulus package.
- Wisconsin's 1,294 clean-energy businesses patented 214 new clean-energy technologies in 2007 alone. Passing a strong clean-energy jobs bill this session is the best thing congress can do to unlock even more innovation and entrepreneurship across Wisconsin and the nation.
- In Marshfield, clean-energy company Aerisyn manufactures wind towers.

American competitiveness and energy independence

- The people of Wisconsin spent more than \$8 billion on imported crude oil in 2007 alone—more than \$1,421 per person.
- Without comprehensive clean-energy reform, Wisconsin taxpayers will spend \$520 million more over the next 10 years to subsidize wealthy oil and gas companies, and this is on top of their already record profits.

Costs of inaction

- The CBO predicted in May 2009 that climate change would cause decreases in future U.S. gross domestic product of between 3 and 5 percent, and global GDP of as much as 10 percent by the end of the century.
- Summers in Wisconsin could be similar to Illinois summers by 2030 in terms of average temperature and rainfall. Wisconsin is the second largest milk producer in the country, and the dairy industry is expected to suffer negative consequences from climate change since milk production is temperature-sensitive and production decreases when temperatures advance beyond a certain threshold.